

## **PERRY COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES – JANUARY 23, 2014**

The Perry County Council met on the above date at 4:30 p.m. as was duly advertised. County Council members in attendance were Steve Goodson, Stan Goffinet, Dianne Rudolph, Chet Mathena, Jim Adams, Jody French and Ron Crawford Sr. A media representative from the *Perry County News* was also present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

### **REORGANIZATION**

The first order of business was to reorganize the council by electing the President and Vice President for 2014.

Ron made a motion to nominate Stan Goffinet for President. Chet seconded the motion.

Jody made a motion to nominate Jim Adams for President. Steve seconded the motion.

Jim made a motion to close the nominations and Ron seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Steve asked for votes on Stan for President and Ron, Dianne, Chet and Stan voted for Stan. Motion carried 4-3 with Jim, Jody and Steve voting against.

Steve then asked for a vote for Jim for President and Jim, Jody and Steve voted in favor. Motion carried 3-4 with Stan, Dianne, Chet and Ron voting against the motion.

Stan was named the new president of 2014.

Dianne made a motion to nominate Jim Adams for Vice President. Jim declined the nomination.

Jim made a motion to nominate Chet Mathena for Vice President. Steve seconded the motion.

Jim made a motion to close the nomination for Vice President, and Ron seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

Chet was named the new vice president for 2014.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from the meeting of December 19, 2013 had been mailed to council members for their review. Jim made the motion to approve minutes, and Steve seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

### **TRANSFERS**

Judge Lucy Goffinet requested a transfer from within the Circuit Court budget as follows: \$2,000.00 from Postage and \$4,000.00 from Medical Exams to Per-Diem Petit Jury for a total of \$6,000.00.

Steve made the motion to approve the transfer request and Jim seconded the motion and motion carried 7-0.

## **TRANSFER APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE**

### **CC-14-1**

WHEREAS, IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT IT IS NOW NECESSARY TO TRANSFER MONEY FROM ONE MAJOR BUDGET CLASSIFICATION TO ANOTHER MAJOR BUDGET CLASSIFICATION IN THE FOLLOWING NAMED BUDGET; NOW THEREFORE:

SEC. 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF PERRY COUNTY, PERRY COUNTY, INDIANA, THAT THE FOLLOWING TRANSFERS BE MADE IN THE FOLLOWING MADE BUDGET:

**COUNTY GENERAL FUND**

<b>TRANSFER \$ 6,000.00</b>		
<b>FROM:</b>	<b>ACCOUNT #1000-232-3000.21</b>	
	<b>POSTAGE</b>	<b>\$ 2,000.00</b>
<b>FROM:</b>	<b>ACCOUNT #1000-232-3000.98</b>	
	<b>MEDICAL EXAMS</b>	<b>\$ 4,000.00</b>
<b>TO:</b>	<b>ACCOUNT #1000-232-1000.36</b>	
	<b>PER DIEM – PETIT JURY</b>	<b>\$ 6,000.00</b>
<b>WITHIN:</b>	<b>CIRCUIT COURT BUDGET</b>	

**ADOPTED THIS 23<sup>RD</sup> DAY OF JANUARY, 2014.**

**NAY**

**AYE**  
**STAN GOFFINET /S/**  
**DIANNE RUDOLPH /S/**  
**CHESTER MATHENA /S/**  
**JIM ADAMS /S/**  
**JODY FRENCH /S/**  
**RON CRAWFORD SR. /S/**  
**STEVE GOODSON /S/**

**ATTEST:**  
**CONNIE A BERGER /S/**  
**PERRY COUNTY AUDITOR**

**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS**

The Perry County Commissioners requested an additional appropriation for the Distribution of Timber Sales in the amount of \$279.61. It was explained that this is one half of the money that is received from the State of Indiana for timber sales on State owned property in Perry County. The other half of the money remains in the County General Fund. Jim made the motion to approve the request and Dianne seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

The Perry County Board of Commissioners requested an additional appropriation request within the Economic Development Income Tax Fund in the amount of \$20,000.00 for Improvements for Ambulance Service at the Highway Garage. The \$20,000.00 is part of the extra EDIT money that was received in 2011 to be used for economic development.

County Commissioner Randy Kleaving explained that the appropriation was to be used to make improvements to the north station for living quarters. The area could be used if an ambulance is ever placed in the northern part of the county. It can also be used by members of the rescue squad, highway employees and by the forest service when there are dry conditions in Perry County. Randy stated that the north station would be an ideal location to house dispatching services for the County rescue agencies if a disaster ever struck Tell City. He stated that the 2010 census shows that there has been a shift in the population into the northern areas of the county. He explained that volunteers have already come forward to provide the labor on the project, only the building supplies will have to be purchased.

Randy explained that the commissioners are working with the hospital to hopefully in the future place an ambulance at the north station. When the building was built in 2000 it was built with the intention of someday housing an ambulance for the northern part of the county. Randy said at this time the commissioners are working with the hospital to get figures as to what the additional cost would be to place an ambulance at the north station. He said that they may also work with local legislators to see if any funding is available through the state. Randy stated that they are willing to work with the Council if funding can be identified through the state or other sources. He wants the Commissioners and Council to work together on this project because it would be the right thing for the citizens of Perry County.

Council Member Jim Adams stated it sounds like this project is being done in phases. Phase I was the building of the garage and phase II will be the building of the living quarters. He feels it is time to stand up to the commitment that was made 13 years ago. Jim stated that he is 100% in favor of the project and this is what has to be done in order to move forward.

Council Member Stan Goffinet stated he would like to see the commissioner's work more closely with the council on something like this. He stated that he would like to see a plan, timeline and a projection of what it will cost. Stan stated that an ambulance at the north station is a good idea, but what is it going to cost the county, and where will funding come from.

Randy explained that the commissioners have been working with the hospital to obtain costs and there are several options once they receive numbers from the hospital as to what the county could do. A lot of research must be done before a final decision can be made. He asked the Council to give them two or three months and by then they might know a whole lot more. Randy and Commissioner Tom Hauser explained that they are not ready at this time to discuss the placement of an ambulance at the north station or what the cost would be. They are only asking for the improvements to the north station at this time. Randy stated that it is not the commissioner's ultimate goal to remove the ambulance service from the hospital, but they want to do what is right for the county. A lot of research must be done before final decisions can be made on the ambulance service.

Commissioner Kleaving also explained to council members that just recently an agreement between Perry and Spencer County for backup ambulance service if ambulance calls become numerous was canceled by Spencer County. Randy explained that the agreement was terminated because Perry County was abusing the agreement. He stated that the commissioners are working with Spencer County to renew the agreement.

Council Member Jody French stated that she is not against any of this, but didn't want to put money into a building if the county cannot afford it. She stated that after learning about the other uses for the building it makes more sense. She stated that her concern is that just because the council may allow the \$20,000 request for the improvements to the building that doesn't mean they are promising anyone an ambulance. Jody also stated the council does not want to make a false promise because they do not know how it is all going to work, and a vote for this tonight is not a vote for an ambulance.

Commissioner Tom Hauser stated that the request is to make improvements to the building that will be used by others, and is a step forward for improving public services. Tom stated that they just received cost estimates from the hospital, and are not ready to present or discuss them at the meeting this evening, but will get the costs to the council members.

Jim made a motion to approve the additional appropriation request of \$20,000.00 from the Economic Development Income Tax. Steve seconded the motion.

Council Member Ron Crawford stated the first he knew about any of this was from an article in the Perry County News on January 13<sup>th</sup>. The article stated that the commissioners had been working on this for a year. It bothered him that it is going to cost the county some money, but did not know how much. Ron stated we as council members have one job and that is to be fiscally responsible. He knows an ambulance is needed at the garage, but it is hard to pass something when you don't know what it will cost.

Council Member Chet Mathena agreed that there should be an ambulance housed at the north station, but doesn't know where the money will come from. Chet suggested that a police officer should also be stationed at the garage; the cost to house an ambulance crew could cost up to \$300,000.00, however, the county has already obligated taxpayers to help pay the hospital construction cost if its revenues aren't sufficient. He stated that a comprehensive plan will cost around \$50,000.00, and that money will have to come from the EDIT funds. He also stated that the new jail will boost capacity from 46 to 132 inmates and it's going to take more officers, money for food, and all expenses will be going up. Chet stated that the proposed annexations within Tell City and Town of Troy

will mean lost money for the county. The elimination of property taxes on business equipment could also cut funds flowing into the county. Chet stated that the council had to cut half a million dollars from the budget, employees did not receive raises, and next year’s funding is uncertain. He asked that the request be tabled for 30 days to allow time to study the project.

Council member Ron Crawford asked if the wording of the request could be changed to eliminate any reference to an ambulance. Council Attorney, Jim Tyler, stated that it could not be changed because it had been advertised to include the word ambulance. County Auditor, Connie Berger, also stated that the wording within the EDIT plan referenced the ambulance.

Stan reminded the council members that Jim had made a motion to approve the request and Steve had seconded the motion. Stan asked for a vote on the motion. Ron, Jody, Jim, Steve, Dianne and Stan voted in favor of the motion and Chet voted against the motion. Motion carried 6-1.

**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 14-CC-01**

WHEREAS, IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT IT IS NOW NECESSARY TO APPROPRIATE MORE MONEY THAN WAS APPROPRIATED IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET; NOW, THEREFORE:

SEC. 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF PERRY COUNTY, PERRY COUNTY, INDIANA, THAT FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE TAXING UNIT THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL SUMS OF MONEY ARE HEREBY APPROPRIATED OUT OF THE FUNDS NAMED AND FOR THE PURPOSES SPECIFIED, SUBJECT TO LAWS GOVERNING THE SAME:

COUNTY GENERAL FUND	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	AYE	NAY
<u>PERRY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS</u>				
#1000-068-3000.97 DISTRIBUTION TIMBER SALES	\$ 279.61	\$ 279.61	7	0
<b>COUNTY GENERAL FUND TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 279.61</b>	<b>\$ 279.61</b>		
<b><u>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCOME TAX FUND</u></b>				
<u>PERRY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS</u>				
#7400-068-4000.20 IMPROVEMENTS FOR AMBULANCE SERVICE AT HIGHWAY GARAGE	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000.00	6	1
<b>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCOME TAX FUND TOTAL: 20,000</b>		<b>\$ 20,000.00</b>		

ADOPTED THIS 24<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JANUARY, 2013.

NAY

AYE  
STAN GOFFINET /S/  
DIANNE RUDOLPH /S/  
CHESTER MATHENA /S/  
JIM ADAMS /S/  
JODY FRENCH /S/  
RON CRAWFORD SR. /S/  
STEVE GOODSON /S/

ATTEST:  
CONNIE A BERGER /S/  
PERRY COUNTY AUDITOR

### **LEGAL SERVICES AGREEMENT**

The County Council decided to retain Attorney James G. Tyler as County Council Attorney to perform legal services for the County Council for 2014 in an amount equal to what the County Council had budgeted of \$4,383.00, to be paid out in monthly installments of \$365.25. Steve made a motion to approve the agreement as presented, and Jim seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

### **APPOINTMENTS**

Perry County Development Corporation: The council had before them a letter from Perry County Development Corporation asking for the county council Board of Director appointment and a delegate for the annual meeting to be held in February. The Council had received a letter from Council member Jody French asking to be reappointed to the Board of Directors along with a letter from Scott Dixon. Ron made a motion to reappoint Jody French to a 3 year term on the Board of Directors for the PCDC. Jim seconded the motion and motion carried 7-0. Ron made the motion to appoint Stan as the delegate for the annual meeting and Dianne seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

With no other business before the council, Jim made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 p.m. Jody seconded the motion, and motion carried 7-0.

Minutes approved this 27<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2014.

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President, Perry County Council

*Minutes prepared by: Connie A. Berger, Perry County Auditor*